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ABSTRACT

This Preschool Parent Survey was designed to gather information on parents' perceptions of the Detroit Public School (DPS) preschool program and to assess the child care needs of parents of the district's preschool students. The 18-item questionnaire was mailed to the homes of 2,000 families in Detroit. Of the 2,000 surveys, 640 were completed and returned, for a return rate of 32 percent. Survey response data reflected the following findings: (1) less than 5 percent of preschool children were enrolled in all-day preschools, with 50.1 percent enrolled in morning sessions and 45.2 percent in afternoon sessions; (2) most respondents (65.8 percent) rated their children's preschool as excellent; (3) over 60 percent strongly agreed that their children were learning a lot in preschool; (4) 75 percent of parents strongly agreed that their children enjoyed preschool; (5) 55 percent of respondents were employed full-time during 1999-2000; (6) over 90 percent were not enrolled in an academic or training program; (7) 72 percent would use before-school child care and 78.8 percent would use after-school care if offered by the district; (8) almost 80 percent would use full-day preschool if offered; (9) over 67 percent reported actively participating in parent programs; (10) 34 percent planned to enroll another child in the current preschool program for the first time; (11) 9 percent indicated that they planned to enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool for the first time; (12) 26 percent planned to enroll their child in kindergarten; (13) the most frequently suggested program improvement was increasing the availability of full-day sessions; and (14) the scarcity of DPS full-day sessions was cited most often as the reason for considering a non-DPS preschool. (A data summary and parent survey responses are appended.) (KB)

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A Report of The Detroit Public Schools Preschool Parent Survey 1999-2000

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Division of Curriculum and Instruction
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March, 2001

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A Report of
The Detroit Public Schools
Preschool Parent Survey
1999-2000

Executive Summary

The Preschool Parent Survey was designed to gather information on parents' perceptions of the DPS preschool program and to assess the child-care needs of parents of the district's preschool students. Parents were requested to complete an eighteen-item survey that addressed these concerns. The survey also attempted to include all parents as full collaborative partners in the educational process of their children by obtaining their input on enhancing the current program.

Methodology

The *Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction* developed and distributed the survey instrument. Questionnaires were mailed to the homes of two thousand families in the City of Detroit. Self-addressed, postage-paid return envelopes were provided for the convenience of parents, as well as to maximize the return of as many completed surveys as possible. Survey completion instructions and a return date were included in all mailings.

Six hundred forty (32.0%) of the two thousand surveys were completed and returned. Sixty-one questionnaires (3.1%) were non-deliverable due to changes of addresses. One hundred thirty-nine DPS preschools were identified by survey respondents.

Findings

Survey response data were collected, compiled and analyzed by the *Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction* reflected the following findings:

- Greater than fifty percent (50.1%) of the respondents' preschool children were enrolled in the morning sessions, 45.2% in the afternoon sessions, and less than five percent (4.8%) were enrolled in all day preschool;
- Most respondents (65.8%) rated their children's preschool as excellent;
- Over sixty percent of respondents (60.4%) strongly agreed that their children were learning a lot in preschool;
- Seventy-five percent of respondents strongly agreed that their children enjoyed their preschool experience;
- Fifty-five percent of respondents were employed full-time during the 1999-2000;
- Over ninety-percent (91.2%) of respondents were not enrolled in an academic or training program;
- Seventy-two percent of those surveyed would use before school child-care and 78.8% would use after school care if offered by the district;
- Greater than seventy-eight percent (78.2%) of respondents would use full-day preschool if offered;

- Over sixty-seven percent of respondents (67.4%) reported actively participating in parent programs;
- Thirty-four percent of respondents planned to enroll another child in the current preschool program for the first time;
- Twenty-one parents (9.0%) indicated that they planned to enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool program for the first time.
- Thirteen parents (5.3%) planned to enroll another child in a preschool program at another Detroit Public School for the first time;
- Sixty-one respondents (26.2%) planned to enroll their child in a kindergarten program;
- Greater that seventy-five percent (75.5%) of respondents planned to enroll their current preschooler in a DPS kindergarten located in the same building as the preschool;
- The most frequently suggested program improvement was increasing the availability of full-day sessions, and;
- The scarcity of DPS full-day sessions was most often cited as the reason for considering a non-DPS preschool. The most frequently cited parent comments given for non-DPS preschool program selection include the following:

    1. Hours are more convenient;
    2. Too few full-day preschool programs;
    3. More computer access;
    4. To allow my children a better chance of getting certified teachers;
    5. More classroom control, higher moral standards, openness to ideas of parents;
    6. More efficient and reliable transportation, and;
    7. Smaller classrooms.

Survey results show that most respondents are happy with the current DPS preschool program, with the exception of not having the availability of full or extended day child-care. Full-day preschools, available to all parents, will provide needed child-care services and cognitive development housed in one location. Chartered, private and other non-DPS preschool programs are currently providing parents with this type of service.

Optimization of Detroit Public Schools' ability to successfully compete with chartered and private preschool programs as well as competition created by possible voucher availability, will most likely require implementation of additional full-day preschools that offer before and after school child-care.

A Report of
The Detroit Public Schools
Preschool Parent Survey
1999-2000

The Preschool Parent Survey was designed to gather information on parents' perceptions of the DPS preschool program and to assess the child-care needs of parents of the district's preschool students. Parents were requested to complete an eighteen-item survey that addressed these concerns. The survey also attempted to include all parents as full collaborative partners in the educational process of their children by obtaining their input on enhancing the current program.

Methodology

The *Office of Research, Evaluation and Assessment of the Division of Curriculum and Instruction* developed and distributed the survey instrument. Questionnaires were mailed to the homes of two thousand families in the City of Detroit. Self-addressed, postage-paid return envelopes were provided for the convenience of parents, as well as to maximize the return of as many completed surveys as possible. Survey completion instructions and a return date were included in all mailings.

Of the two thousand surveys distributed, six hundred forty (32.0%) were completed and returned. Sixty-one questionnaires (3.1%) were unable to be delivered due to changes of addresses. Of the six hundred forty returned surveys, 608 respondents (95.0%) identified one hundred thirty-nine DPS preschool programs in which their children were enrolled during the time the survey was conducted. Most of the identified preschools are conducted in the local schools. Eight identified preschools are sponsored by DPS, but they are physically housed in centers that are not located in a local DPS school. See Table A1 in the appendix for the percent and number of total surveys received for each school or center.

Description of the Survey Instrument

The 1999-2000 Preschool Parent Survey, a double-sided instrument consisted of single answer, multiple answer and open-ended response items. It was designed to gather information on the school or center at which the students attended preschool, parents' perceptions of program quality in terms of their children's academic achievement and social development, as well as whether the preschool experience was gratifying. Information on child-care and preschool needs was solicited. Parents' enrollment plans for their children during the upcoming school year and suggestions for program additions, deletions and other changes were examined.

The primary focus of survey items included the following:

- Identification of the type of program in which children were enrolled, half day (morning or afternoon) or full day;

- Parents' rating on program quality;
- Parents' employment status;
- Parents' academic or training commitments;
- Child-care and preschool needs, in terms of hours;
- Level of parent participation in preschool activities;
- Preschool enrollment plans for the upcoming school year;
- Rationale for considering a non-DPS preschool for the upcoming school year;
- Kindergarten enrollment plans for parents of current preschool students for the upcoming school year;
- Rationale for consideration of a non-DPS kindergarten, and;
- Respondent suggestions for current and future DPS preschool program enhancement.

Analysis of the Data

Three hundred fifteen respondents (50.1%), of six hundred twenty-nine replies (98.3%) to the item asking for identification of the preschool session attended, acknowledged that their children were enrolled in a morning session. Slightly less, 45.2% (284 replies) indicated that the children attended an afternoon session. The remaining 30 respondents (4.8%) specified that their children were enrolled in an all day session. See Table 1.

Table 1

Respondent Acknowledgement
Of the
Preschool Session Attended by Children

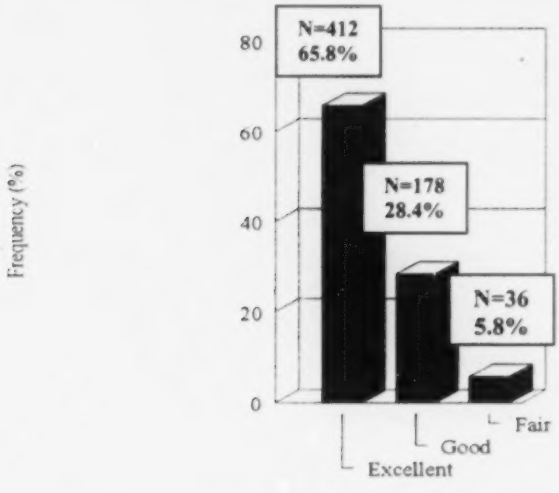
Preschool Session	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Morning Session	315	50.1
Afternoon Session	284	45.2
All Day Session	30	4.8
Total	**629**	**100.1***

***The total does not equal 100.0 percent due to rounding.**

When respondents were requested to indicate an overall rating of their children's preschool program, most responses were favorable. Of six hundred twenty-six replies, 412 (65.8%) rated the program as excellent. One hundred seventy-eight respondents (28.4%) rated the preschool program as good. Thirty-six respondents (5.8%) submitted a fair rating of the preschool program attended by their children. See Figure 1.

Figure 1

Respondents' Rating of Their Children's Preschool Program



When parents were asked whether their children were learning a lot, 627 replies were submitted. Over sixty percent (60.4%, N=379) strongly agreed that they felt their children were learning a lot in preschool. Two hundred twenty-five respondents (35.9%) agreed. Eighteen parents (2.9%) disagreed and five respondents (0.8%) strongly disagreed with the survey item: *My child(ren) is (are) learning a lot in preschool.* See Table 2.

Table 2

Respondents Assessment on Their Children's Level of Learning

Survey Item: *My child(ren) is (are) learning a lot in preschool.*		
Response	**Number of Respondents**	**Percent of Respondents**
Strongly Agree	379	60.4
Agree	225	35.9
Disagree	18	2.9
Strongly Agree	5	0.8
Total	**627**	**100.0**

Respondents were requested to share their perceptions on the level of enjoyment displayed by children while attending preschool. Of the six hundred twenty-three replies received, seventy-five percent (N=467) were in strong agreement. One hundred fifty-three respondents (24.6%) agreed. Three respondents (0.5%) disagreed and no respondents strongly disagreed with the survey item. See Table 3.

Table 3

Respondents' Perceptions on the Level of Enjoyment Experienced by Their Children in Preschool

Survey Item: *My child(ren) enjoy(s) preschool.*		
Response	**Number of Respondents**	**Percent of Respondents**
Strongly Agree	467	75.0
Agree	153	24.6
Disagree	3	0.5
Strongly Disagree	0	0.0
Total	**623**	**100.1***

***The total percent does not equal 100.0% due to rounding.**

Parents' work schedules during the 1999-2000 were requested in an attempt to determine child-care needs. Over one half of 613 respondents (55.0%, N=337) stated that they were employed full-time during the school year. One hundred sixty-six respondents (27.1%) reported that they were unemployed. One hundred ten respondents (17.9%) indicated that they worked part-time during the school year. See Table 4.

Table 4

Parents' Work Schedules During the 1999-2000 School Year

Work Schedule	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Full-Time Employment	337	55.0
Unemployed	166	27.1
Part-Time Employment	110	17.9
Total	**613**	**100.0**

Parental child-care needs were further sought by asking respondents to indicate their personal academic load in terms of course credit hours carried during the school year. Responses ranged from zero hours to 40 hours of academic credit. However, of the 592 replies received, over ninety percent of respondents (91.2%) reported no academic commitment. See Table 5.

Table 5

Respondents' Academic Commitments During the 1999-2000 School Year

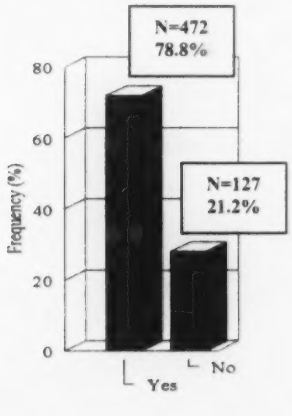
Credit Hours	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
0	540	91.2
6	11	1.9
3	9	1.5
12	7	1.2
8	5	0.8
4	4	0.7
5	3	0.5
10	2	0.3
14	2	0.3
16	2	0.3
7	2	0.3
9	2	0.3
Other: 20,15,40	3	0.5
Total	**592**	**99.8***

***The total percent did not equal 100.0 due to rounding.**

When parents were asked if they would use before school child-care if given the option, they overwhelmingly responded, "Yes". Of the 596 replies, 72.0% (N=429) selected the "yes" response choice. Twenty-eight percent of respondents (N=167) indicated that they would not accept before school child-care if offered. See Figure 2.

Figure 2

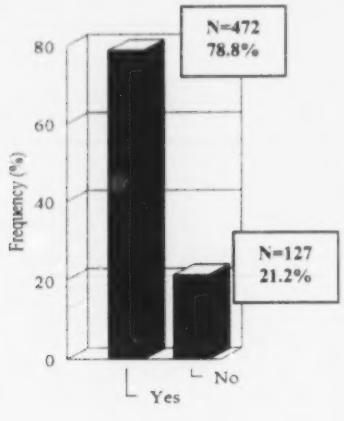
Respondents' Reaction to Using



The survey item that followed inquired if parents were willing to use after school child-care services if offered by the district. Again the response was overwhelmingly positive. Four hundred seventy-two of five hundred ninety-nine respondents (78.8%) answered "Yes". One hundred twenty-seven respondents (21.2%) indicated that they would not utilize after school child-care services if available. See Figure 3.

Figure 3

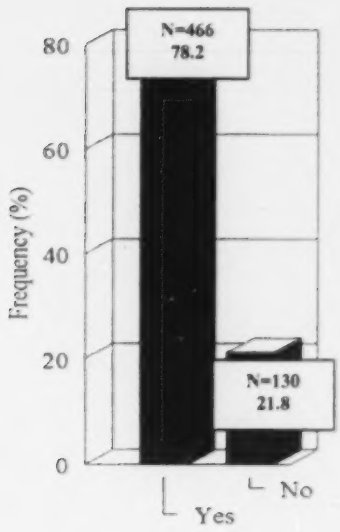
Respondents' Reaction to Using After School Child-Care Services



The possible option of all day child-care services was presented to respondents. Four hundred sixty-six of five hundred ninety-six respondents (78.2%) responded positively when asked if they would use such a service if the district were to make it available. One hundred thirty respondents (21.8%) indicated they did not plan to use all day child-care if available. See Figure 4.

Figure 4

Respondents' Reactions to Using All Day Child Care Services



Parents were presented with six possible preschool schedules and asked to select one that would best suit their needs. Of the five hundred eighty-two replies, 192 (33.0%) selected an all day session with the availability of before and after school child-care. One hundred seventy-one respondents (29.4%) selected an all day session without available before and after school child-care. One hundred seven respondents (18.4%) selected a morning session with no before school child-care provided. Forty-six respondents (7.9%) selected an afternoon session with no after school child-care provided. Six percent of respondents (N=35) selected an afternoon session with the option of after school child-care. Thirty-one respondents (5.3%) selected a morning session with the availability of before school child-care. See Table 6.

Table 6

Respondents' Selection of Preferred Preschool Schedules

Possible Preschool Schedules	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
All day with before and after school care	192	33.0
All day without before or after school care	171	29.4
Morning session without before school care	107	18.4
Afternoon session without after school care	46	7.9
Afternoon session with after school care	35	6.0
Morning session with before school care	31	5.3
Total	**582**	**100.0**

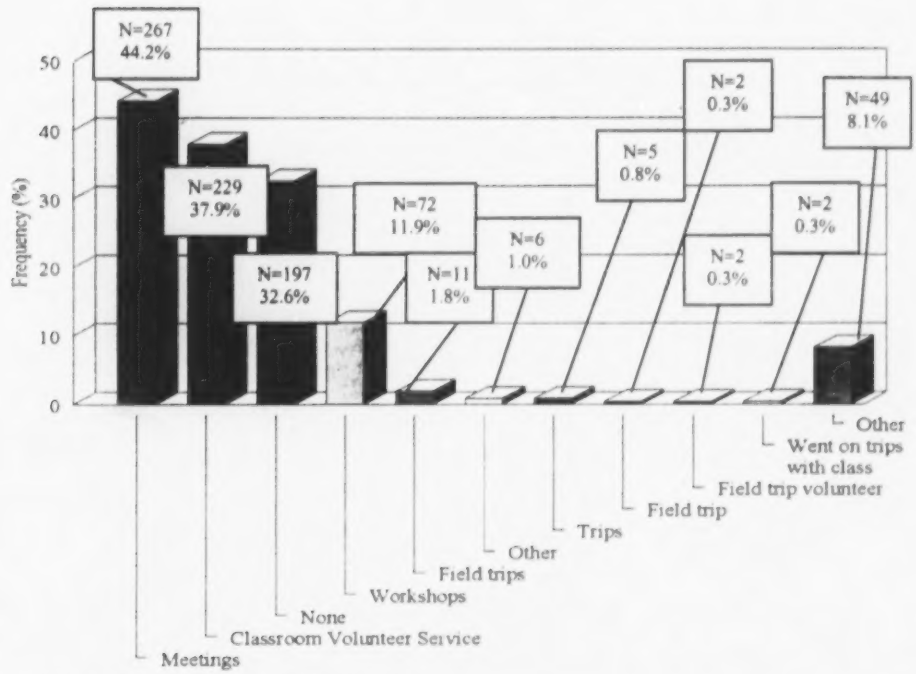
Since the reviewed literature supports the finding that parental involvement is an asset to children's educational experiences, respondents were asked to indicate their involvement in their children's preschool program. Responses were varied, in that most parents selected several of four possible answers and an open-ended "Other" option.

Of six hundred four replies, 267 (44.2%) indicated that they were currently participating in parent meetings. Two hundred twenty-nine parents (37.9%) reported that they currently volunteered their services in the classroom. One hundred ninety-seven respondents (32.6%) selected none as a response choice. Nearly twelve percent (11.9%, N=72) responding parents indicated that they are currently attending workshops. A total of twenty-two respondents (3.5%)[1] indicated that they participate in trips or field trips. Over nine percent (9.1%) of respondents wrote in "Other" forms of participation that included trips, child advocacy roles, giving donations. See Figure 5. A complete list of responses can be found in the appendix. Because respondents were permitted to select multiple answer choices, answers total over 100.0 percent and the total number of responses total greater than the 634 surveys returned with replies to the item.

[1] Field Trips: N=11, (1.8%); Trips: N=5, (0.8%); Field Trip: N=2, (0.3%); Field Trip Volunteer: N=2, (0.3%); Went on trips with class: N=2, (0.3%). Total: N=22, (3.5%). See Appendix: Survey Questions and Responses.

Figure 5

Respondent Participation Levels
In Parent Programs



* Note: Multiple answers can total over 100%.

The survey item that followed asked parents to indicate the number of hours served as participants in the children's preschool program. One hundred seventy-nine respondents (33.0%) of five hundred forty-two of those having submitted replies, reported serving from 1 to 5 hours per semester. One hundred sixty-six respondents (30.6%) indicated that they were not currently participating in any parent programs. Ninety-eight parents (18.1%) reported serving from 6 to 10 hours per semester. Sixty-one respondents (11.3%) stated that they were currently serving 16 or more hours per semester. Thirty-eight respondents (7.0%) indicated 11 to 15 hours of service per semester. See Table 7.

Table 7
Overall Hours Served by Parents In Preschool Program Participation

Service Hours per Semester	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
1 to 5	179	33.0
Did Not Participate	166	30.6
6 to 10	98	18.1
16 or more	61	11.3
11 to 15	38	7.0
Total	**542**	**100.0**

Parents were asked to indicate preschool enrollment plans for their children during the upcoming school year. Of the 246** replies, eighty-three (34.0%) reported that they planned to enroll another child in the current preschool program for the first time. Twenty-two parents (9.0%) indicated that they planned to enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool program for the first time.

Since the answer choice "kindergarten" was not given in the *Preschool Future Plans* section of the survey, a total of sixty-one respondents (25.0%) choose to write-in the answer "kindergarten" as a future plan for their preschooler. Thirteen parents (5.3%) planned to enroll another child in a preschool program at another Detroit Public School for the first time. The sixty-seven respondents (27.5%) selected "Other" as an answer choice. All comments listed under the "Other" option may be found in the appendix. See Table 8.

Table 8

Respondents' Preschool Plans for Another Child For the Upcoming School Year

Survey Response	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Enroll another child in this preschool program for the first time.	83	34.0
Enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool program for the first time.	22	9.0
Kindergarten	61	26.2
Enroll another child in a preschool program at another Detroit Public School for the first time.	13	5.3
Other	67	27.5
Total	**246****	**100.8***

***The total does not equal 100.0 percent due to rounding. **Two respondents selected two answer choices for a survey item, which totaled 246 replies when summed in contrast to the total: 244 indicated on the Survey Questions and Responses.**

Parents were asked to briefly give their reasons for considering enrolling their children in a non-Detroit Public Schools preschool program, if they had indicated that they would do so in response to the previous survey item. Respondent comments included the following:

- Hours are more convenient;
- Too few full-day preschool programs;
- More computer access;
- I would change to allow my children a better chance of getting certified teachers;
- Smaller classrooms;
- More classroom control, higher moral standards, openness to ideas of parents;
- I have considered enrolling my child in a non-public preschool for more efficient and reliable transportation;
- Smaller classrooms for a better education.

A complete list of all comments may be found in the appendix.

Because kindergarten enrollment plans for current preschoolers were of interest, respondents were asked to share their kindergarten enrollment intentions for their current preschool children for the upcoming school year.

Of five hundred ninety-three replies, four hundred forty-eight respondents (75.5%) indicated that they planned to enroll their children in kindergarten housed at the same Detroit Public School in which they are currently enrolled for preschool. Fifty-eight respondents (9.8%) planned to enroll their children in a kindergarten class located at a different Detroit Public School. Forty-seven parents (7.9%) expressed intentions of enrolling their children in a charter school kindergarten. Six respondents (1.0%) planned to enroll their children in a private or parochial school for kindergarten. Six respondents (1.0%) indicated that they planned to enroll their children in public school kindergarten outside of the City of Detroit. Twenty-eight parents (4.7%) indicated future plans other than those provided as answer choices. The statements were written in the space labeled "Other." See Table 9 for a summary of the survey item results.

Table 9

Kindergarten Enrollment Plans
For Preschool Children for the Upcoming School Year

Survey Response Choices	Number of Respondents	Percent of Respondents
Enroll my child(ren) in kindergarten at this school	448	75.5
Enroll my child(ren) in kindergarten at another Detroit Public school	58	9.8
Enroll my child(ren) in a charter school kindergarten	47	7.9
Enroll my child(ren) in a private or parochial school	6	1.0
Enroll my child(ren) in a public school outside of Detroit	6	1.0
Other	28	4.7
Total	**593**	**99.9***

***The total percent does not equal 100.0 due to rounding.**

Parents were requested to provide their comments and suggestions on ways to improve the current DPS preschool program. Many positive comments were submitted, indicating that changes and additions were not needed. There were, however, some recurring suggestions that included a need for additional all day preschool programs, more computer use in the classroom, a more extensive preschool curriculum emphasizing the basic subjects, such as mathematics, reading and writing skills, and additional activities, such as field trips. See the appendix for a complete list of respondent comments and suggestions.

Conclusions and Recommendations

The Preschool Parent Survey provided the district with a sampling of parent views regarding the quality and effectiveness of the districts' preschool program. Valuable insight was gained regarding respondent perspectives on available preschool hours, curriculum content, teaching strategies, preschool selection choices, and kindergarten and preschool selection criteria for the upcoming school year. Parents were also able to offer their input on future program development.

Survey results revealed the following significant respondent perceptions concerning Detroit Public Schools preschools:

- Greater than fifty percent (50.1%) of the respondents' preschool children were enrolled in the morning sessions, 45.2% in the afternoon sessions, and less than five percent (4.8%) were enrolled in all day preschool;
- Most respondents (65.8%) rated their children's preschool as excellent;
- Over sixty percent of respondents (60.4%) strongly agreed that their children were learning a lot in preschool;
- Seventy-five percent of respondents strongly agreed that their children enjoyed their preschool experience;
- Fifty-five percent of respondents were employed full-time during the 1999-2000;
- Over ninety-percent (91.2%) of respondents were not enrolled in an academic or training program;
- Seventy-two percent of those surveyed would use before school child-care and 78.8% would use after school care if offered by the district;
- Greater than seventy-eight percent (78.2%) of respondents would use full-day preschool if offered;
- Over sixty-seven percent of respondents (67.4%) reported actively participating in parent programs;
- Thirty-four percent of respondents planned to enroll another child in the current preschool program for the first time;
- Twenty-one parents (9.0%) indicated that they planned to enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool program for the first time.
- Thirteen parents (5.3%) planned to enroll another child in a preschool program at another Detroit Public School for the first time;
- Sixty-one respondents (26.2%) planned to enroll their child in a kindergarten program;
- Greater that seventy-five percent (75.5%) of respondents planned to enroll their current preschooler in a DPS kindergarten located in the same building as the preschool;
- The most frequently suggested program improvement was increasing the availability of full-day sessions, and;
- The scarcity of DPS full-day sessions was most often cited as the reason for considering a non-DPS preschool. The most frequently cited parent comments given for non-DPS preschool program selection include the following:

    1. Hours are more convenient;
    2. Too few full-day preschool programs;
    3. More computer access;
    4. To allow my children a better chance of getting certified teachers;
    5. More classroom control, higher moral standards, openness to ideas of parents;
    6. More efficient and reliable transportation, and;
    7. Smaller classrooms.

Survey results show that most respondents are happy with the current DPS preschool program, with the exception of not having the availability of full or extended day child-care. Full-day preschools, available to all parents, will provide needed child-

care services and cognitive development housed in one location. Chartered, private and other non-DPS preschool programs are currently providing parents with this type of service.

Optimization of Detroit Public Schools' ability to successfully compete with chartered and private preschool programs as well as competition created by possible voucher availability, will most likely require implementation of additional full-day preschools that offer before and after school child-care.

Appendix

- Table A1: Percent and Number of Returned Surveys from Identified Schools or Centers Attended by Children of Respondents
- Preschool Parent Survey Questions and Responses

Table A1

Percent and Number of Returned Surveys from Identified Schools or Centers Attended by Children of Respondents

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
1.6	10	Academy of Americas
0.2	1	Angell
0.7	4	Arts in Academics
1.3	8	Atkinson
0.5	3	Bagley
0.2	1	Barton
0.3	2	Beard
0.5	3	Bennett
0.2	1	Bethany Baptist Education Center
1.2	7	Bethune
0.2	1	Biddle
0.2	1	Birney
0.8	5	Bow
1.6	10	Boynton
1.2	7	Brady
0.2	1	Brewer
0.5	3	Burbank
1.3	8	Burt
0.5	3	Butzel
0.3	2	Cadillac
0.3	2	Campbell
0.2	1	Carlyle

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
0.5	3	Carstens
1.2	7	Chandler
0.2	1	Children's Palace
0.5	3	Clark
0.5	3	Clinton
0.5	3	Columbian Primary
0.3	2	Cooke
0.5	3	Coolidge
0.2	1	Cooper
0.3	2	Courtis
2.3	14	Courville
0.8	5	Crary
1.8	11	Davison
0.2	1	Detroit Day School for the Deaf
1.0	6	Detroit Open
0.8	5	Dewey
0.5	3	Dossin
0.2	1	Dove Academy
1.0	6	Dow
0.7	4	Duffield
1.5	9	Durfee
1.0	6	Emerson
0.2	1	Fairbanks
0.2	1	Family Place Head Start
0.5	3	Ferry

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
0.7	4	Fitzgerald
0.7	4	Fleming
0.8	5	Ford
0.2	1	Foundation for Exceptional Children
0.8	5	Fox
0.2	1	Gardner
0.8	5	Garvey
0.3	2	Glazer
0.2	1	Gloria Day Care
0.3	2	Gompers
0.3	2	Goodale
0.2	1	Grace Head Start
0.7	4	Grant
0.2	1	Grayling
0.5	3	Greenfield Park
1.2	7	Greenfield Union
0.7	4	Hampton
1.5	9	Hanstein
1.2	7	Harding
0.5	3	Harms
1.5	9	Healy
1.2	7	Herman
0.3	2	Higgins
1.2	7	Holcomb
0.5	3	Holmes

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
1.0	6	Holmes, A.L.
1.3	8	Hosmer
1.0	6	Houghton
1.2	7	Howe
1.0	6	Hubert
0.3	2	Hutchinson
0.3	2	Jamieson
1.5	9	Jemison
0.2	1	Joy
0.3	2	Joyce
1.0	6	Keith
1.5	9	King ES
1.0	6	Kosciusko
0.7	4	Lodge
1.6	10	Logan
0.7	4	Loving
0.7	4	MAAT
0.3	2	MacCulloch
0.2	1	MacDowell
0.7	4	Macomb
1.0	6	Mann
1.2	7	Mark Twain
1.0	6	Marquette
0.3	2	Marshall, J.
1.0	6	Marshall, T.
1.0	6	Maybury

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
0.3	2	McColl
0.5	3	McFarlane
1.8	11	McKenny
1.2	7	Monnier
0.5	3	Neinas
0.7	4	Newberry
1.3	8	Newton
1.0	6	Noble
0.3	2	Nolan
1.2	7	Oakman
0.2	1	Old Redford Academy
0.2	1	Owen
0.3	2	Parker
0.5	3	Parkman
1.0	6	Pasteur
0.5	3	Pitcher
0.2	1	Pixie & Dixie
0.3	2	Priest
0.8	5	Pulaski
1.5	9	Richard
0.8	5	Richards
1.0	6	Robeson
0.3	2	Rose
0.8	5	Sampson
1.5	9	Schulze
0.2	1	Sherrard

Percent of Total Responses	Number of Responses Per School/Center	School/Center
0.8	5	Spain
0.5	3	Stewart
0.2	1	Sunny Brook
0.8	5	Thirkell
1.5	9	Trix
0.5	3	Turner
0.8	5	Van Zile
1.5	9	Vernor
0.8	5	Vetal
1.0	6	Von Steuben
1.6	10	White
0.2	1	Winterhalter
0.8	5	Woodward
0.7	4	Yost
0.7	4	Young
Total Percent: *100.7	**Total Number of Forms: 608**	**Total Number of Schools/Centers: 139**

***The percent is not equal to 100.0 due to rounding.**

Respondents' Comments and Suggestions
On How the District Can Improve Preschool

How can District improve the current preschool program?

- All Day School
- The District can improve the program by Keeping the children in class a little longer, so that they can learn more in that time.
- I believe they should have computers in the class now because of the high level of learning skills there is for computers, also because that's basically what society is about now days is computers.
- Increase the hours to a full day of school.
- Need after care program.
- I think this one is great.
- I would love to see some type of Foreign Language included in the academic programs an some type of athletics. I don't understand why all of the schools have to wear uniforms because it does not stop the jealousy or the fighting. Some of the students still don't fit in.
- I think this one is great.
- Better teachers, more enhanced curricula.
- By being helpful to parents on whatever their needs may be. Stop going on strike so the students can come and learn something. Also, pay the teachers what they deserve so they will want to teach. Get computers and different language classes.
- The environment needs to be more controlled. Children should not be waiting outside on the sidewalk to get in the school every morning (winter). All public schools should wear uniforms. Less concerned for children's' minds on how they look.
- The way that it could benefit me would be to allow 3 yr. to 4 yr.. old kids to go to pre-school instead of going to another school.
- More all day programs!
- Parents more involved with troubled children. Hold parents more accountable for their children's education.
- His present teacher had no parent meetings so we could follow up at home. She took the children outside to play much too often in a 3 1/2 hour school day for whatever reasons. My child stopped progressing in school.
- Retain more experienced people like Mrs. Kwiecier & Mrs. Smith. Allow for more access to computer & newer toys.
- I think the program is fine. You may want to add another class to help the children who could not't attend because of the small enrollments.
- To make thing workout for every child being planned for.
- Give more homework. Inform parents when grades start to fall before report card time.
- Have longer hours with smaller kindergarten classes.
- More school supplies and activities. Kindergarten should be all day.
- My child had a great year in preschool.
- More trips for the kids because they work hard to learn the things they need to know. Also, they need to teach the children to learn how to write. They need to have homework just to trace letters and numbers.
- After school program for kids.

- Extend hours; provide some information to parents about their perspective regarding child's strengths and areas which need strengthening. Provide training to teachers assistants who are not certified.
- I want the district to improve the current preschool program so that parents can keep their kids in school for at least 10 hours a day so that parents can work.
- Employ teachers who discipline the children and not blame the parent when the child acts up in school
- Stop all the singing and playing & teach constantly reading & math. If my child is ready to learn these things at this age, I know there are many more ready. Reading should be a requirement to go to kindergarten at the basic level at least.
- Make the program all day.
- Well they could have a few more educational field trips. They only had two the entire school year because of funding. So coming up with a few more dollars for that would be nice.
- If all preschool programs are taught the way that Mrs.. Milligan teaches her class this is the way to improve the program. She deserves recognition.
- Satisfied
- Have all day kindergarten
- Provide more teachers willing to teach their student no matter what. If you have to call the home, knock on the door, get the babies to school for their shots. Education, it's the key to life.
- Longer school day & year. Excellent curriculum.
- Make it all day with before and afterwards child care.
- Insist on more parent participation for the child to stay in the program more phonics & pre math skills.
- Need more educational games for the computer. The information/games on the computers are old. Today's children (most anyway) can do them with their eyes closed.
- Better bus service.
- If they (District) would have after care program for kids whose parents are working or in school. Like they do in private school.
- The preschool program my child attended was very good. I like the school and the teacher was excellent.
- It was a good preschool program. She just loves her teachers and she learned a lot of thing in this program.
- Make it an all day program.
- I want the district to improve the current preschool program by extending the time from 7:00 a.m - 4:30 p.m. So the working parents can have time to drop and pick up the kids after work.
- Hire teachers to teach their students. The teacher should teach a full program everyday. The students should not have to miss out because a parent does not volunteer.
- The teacher should not have her lessons based on a parent volunteer each day. She should have a full lesson regardless.
- I have no suggestions. Our experience was a good one. We wish to applaud preschool teacher Ms. Landers. Her aide Mr. Collier and speech teacher Mr. Pruitt. Their dedication made the difference for Shelby.
- Teach children ABC's, phonics, early math, how to write.
- Providing latch key services and computer basic programs.

- They are doing a excellent job. Just keep moving parents involved in everything that's going on in school.
- Tray to have all day preschool.
- All day preschool & kindergarten. Parent participation a must to keep your child in the program!
- Children need extended learning; longer classes, computer usage; more challenging reading activities (phonics writing/books).
- I truly don't have any complaints about how the program was run for my child's preschool classes. I don't see where improvement is needed.
- By teaching a little more as far as sounds, letters, animals. They start off by teaching the children but end up just letting them play. I also think that George Ford should have all day preschool and kindergarten for their students.
- My child was always sick due to the dust in the building. They need to improve their cleaning. My child comes home dusty everyday. Some teachers there have attitude problems also.
- My child loves the preschool at Logan school. The teachers there taught 3 of my children through the years. My oldest is 14 years old. They are good teachers. The school needs all day kindergarten class. The children do better as they get older in reading and math.
- Offer classes all day.
- Pasteur preschool was great. I give high marks to Ms. Harper & Ms. Williams.
- It's fine. I love my child's teacher (Mrs. Hearns).
- By adjusting the hours for working parents.
- Pre-school class is fine. Mrs Wyatt & aide does a very good job with children. However, the older school children are too loud. Too much profanity, total disrespect for authority & older adults. Not a good environment for the very young just starting out.
- The district can improve the current preschool program by including earning letters & numbers not just colors, painting & drawing. My child did enjoy the preschool program very much. She had wonderful teachers Ms. Martha Piesko & Mrs. Ware.
- I think it's doing fine the way it is right now. The preschool teacher my so had made learning fun and challenging.
- No improvement needed at George Ford.
- Add before and after care for parents with flexible schedules.
- No improvement needed from my current prospective.
- Provide more field trips for the children with more hands on activities. I was very pleased with the pre-school program and it's knowledgeable caring & patient teachers. I would recommend Mark Twain pre-school for all children in Detroit area.
- It would be nice to offer an after school program for the parents that work full time.
- More parent freedom in classroom-present new ideas.
- The preschool program should be morning and afternoon sessions.
- The school district needs to meet the same standards as our suburban schools with a more challenging material for the students and better pay for the teachers.
- Monitor the educator while educating the students may be undercover or just spot/surprise visits or hidden cameras!! Test some of the teachers for high stress levels or low income tolerance levels? Some teachers do not have patience for different types of people. Little people that have different personalities.
- Extend the hour to a whole day.
- Hooked on phonics. More homework for them.

- There's a lot of working parents. Latch key would help. All day kindergarten. Please do not stop preschool. Believe it or not, we think It doesn't matter but for the little people. My son has come a long way.
- The district can improve the preschool program by teaching more reading and writing skills.
- I think the current preschool program is doing a good job.
- I feel there is really not much improvement to be done. But, more computers in all Detroit Public Schools would be more helpful an by all means we need PRAYER in the schools.
- Keep the program go it is a fair program. The teacher works well with the children.
- Instead of half day programs I think the children will benefit better with a full day program.
- Parents who it is hard for them to get there kids to school should have a way for transportation especially if parents doesn't have a car and it rains or snow.
- Provide all day programs.
- Check with all day programs.
- Keep it open so that P-K can get use to getting up and going to school. P.S. I have a special child with a few impairs. (He's LD) Is there any information you can send me that will help as far as a school with buses?
- Get another teacher. Ms. Piesko is very lazy. She teaches things that's not necessary like making pudding, lemonade, no ABC's, numbers, or computer time.
- Have more extra curriculum activities for pre-schoolers an kindergarten. Have summer classes for kindergarten.
- Make it a all day program.
- Stop putting all children in the same learning level. Teach higher level. Teach to read & write early and more regularly. Increase the level of learning, teaching, etc. You say they have plenty of time to learn to read & write. When the time comes they also have to learn spelling, math, science, etc. What a bomber! All in one short semester. These kids can learn more. They need to.
- You all could have more field trips that are educational for the children like going to the DIA or going to the water parks in the summer or something if you want them to have fun.
- By reducing the size of class room (children). Provide more aides to the teachers. Make pre-school & kindergarten all day mandatory.
- Provide all day classes, provide more homework.
- Make the program all day instead of half a day.
- It's okay the way it is.
- Everything was great except maybe have more field trips.
- Everything was great! Nothing at all should be changed. I had a wonderful time working with the pre-school students and the teacher, Mrs. Pederson at Gerald Ford Elem.
- Move to an all day preschool program or 1/2 day preschool with latch key or after school care.
- Make preschool available at all district areas. Some areas do not have preschool currently.
- The child care program would benefit the families so that both parents can work and the whole family benefits with more income coming in.
- I think the program is excellent.
- It doesn't need any improvement. I and my child enjoyed the entire year.
- District can improve the current preschool program by extending sessions M-F with before and after care along with transportation service.

- They need more help in the school.
- Offer a hot lunch that is healthy for the children. Offer more computers in preschool program.
- Have a 8 a.m. -3:30 p.m. kindergarten class at that school.
- School administrators need to be more concerned about the children in deeds. Not just by word only. Van Zile's pre-school had heating problems which still are not corrected.
- They can take time and help all children not have them pick and choose.
- As far as the preschool goes, there's really not too much that needs to be done. If parent's can't attend the meetings because of their jobs, it shouldn't be held against them. Maybe there's only 1 parent.
- None. Very good. I love Mrs. Schultz my child's teacher at Holcomb school.
- It is perfect the way it is.
- Focus more on academics at a higher learning scale.
- I asked for my twins to receive speech all year. I went downtown for help for them and still got nowhere. The two kindergarten teachers are awful at Houghten. One does nothing all year and the other puts her hands on the students.
- Make it everyday from 8:45-3:30.
- Make parent participation mandatory. Give teacher "seed money" for art supplies and computer equipment.
- Have school care for parents in need.
- They should have a bus that can cone pick up the kids that can't afford to pay to have buses to pick them up.
- Everything is fine. Keep up the good work.
- By making before & after school care available for the working parents.
- Make the pre-school all day and have more activities for the children during the year. The children should be learning a little bit more that what they have accomplished by the end of the year.
- I can't speak on the entire pre-school program, but my son had an excellent teacher- Mrs. Stokes. My youngest son will be in her class this school year.
- Let the preschool go all day so they can learn like the other students a whole day.
- McFarlane preschool class is excellent. The teacher is prepared and sweet. I would consider her and her assistant for a teachers award. Mrs. Epac. We love her.
- It is very nice as it is. Thank you!
- I wouldn't. I'm happy the way it is.
- I don't think they should go by income instead go by what child really needs the help in learning.
- In the winter time serve some hot food.
- Make it all day.
- Incorporate daycare before & after programs like some of the charter schools have.
- Just have before & after school hours
- After school program
- Teachers were more patient with children.
- I wouldn't do much to improve the preschool program. I would suggest getting children to learn basic sounds or start teaching them to read earlier than kindergarten programs.
- By allowing the children to stay in school longer than 3 hours and also by going 5 days a week instead of just 4 days.
- If possible give more feedback on child's progress. That is tell us what more we should be

doing to assist and motivate our kids. Not just at report card marking, more in between times. Vernor teacher Ms. Lolita Isaac is excellent. I wish she could teach him in kindergarten.

- Lengthen sessions with five days of preschool instead of four days.
- More supplies & more adventurous trips.
- Provide before and after school care for single working and or college students like myself who would like the best possible care for their children. Thank you.
- All day till noon.
- Safer playgrounds; maintenance to St. Hedwig Park across from school with no graffiti. Include summer programs for younger children.
- All day pre-school academic program.
- More trips to educational places. Make it more exciting and interesting.
- I am satisfied with my daughter program. I am especially pleased that she gets homework everyday.
- I think preschool should be exposed more to arts, music, and career minded things. Preschoolers are a lot smarter that what we give them credit for. They need to be around more positive things in life. Start them off on a good start.
- Make the program all day.
- I can only speak about Dow's preschool program and I say the program was excellent.
- The class should be longer than two and half hours.
- I think it was time for the kids to learn how to use a computer. They need to teach the kids about sharing. But I can say that my daughter's teacher was very good.
- Get more teachers like Mrs. Mooney. She's a great teacher. I would recommend her any day.
- Have a latchkey program.
- No improvements needed for Mann's preschool. It is excellent. Mrs. Landers is great.
- I strongly believe that pre school should be all day and somehow the parents need to be more involved in their children's schooling.
- Stop changing grade marking in the 3rd semester. Stop waiting until the last min to strike to saying what the real issue and problems are before school is back in session..
- I think it is a good program.
- Stress attendance and participation to parents whose children attend.
- In addition to keeping current program offer parents a full day program.
- Not sure at this time. Have 4 kids.
- It's just fine
- The District should have more educational (mental) activities more so than physical.
- By allowing the teacher in charge to have more of a say so in the decisions that's made. Instead of the school principal.
- More parent participation.
- Have full time preschool 7-6, M-F.
- The teachers need more help and time with each student to begin teaching phonics and begin math skills. Also, a budget for take home materials so learning continues on the same level & subject at home.
- This school preschool program is excellent as well as the preschool teachers. They taught my child a lot preparing her for kindergarten.
- They are doing a nice job.
- It would be very fun & beneficial to perhaps build a nice wooden or hard plastic play area.

- Add more hours.
- All of my children attend a charter school K-8th grade.
- By keeping them in school more than 3 hr and 50 mins. Because she is never ready to go home.
- Yes. Mrs. Stokes at the school made learning enjoyable for my daughter and she loved school. She really enjoys learning new things. It makes her proud.
- Put the class for more time 8:40 to 11:40 is little time.
- By simply employing more teachers with the dedication of Mrs. Vallimont a tremendous pre-school teacher at Hubert Elementary.
- I was very happy with the preschool program.
- Provide the teachers with proper equipment.
- I don't know. I was pleased with this program.
- The preschool program seems to be good. District needs to bring the rest of the school (grade 1-5) up to same standards. It appears to me small class sizes, free field trips, hands on activities-puzzles, good quality computer gams, singing an the like
- Have block club presidents stop trying to take over the parent programs because they think they can control it.
- Offer more preschool programs like Hanstein.
- Spend more time with the children. Take time to listen to them.
- The preschool program is great the way it is now.
- Please provide before & after school care or have all day school 9:00-3:00.
- I was pleased with this program, and the results showed with my daughter's progress. Ms. Shaw is an excellent teacher.
- Have more supplies for the children. Text book to take home an use in class. People (special guests) to come inside classroom and work with children, computer in the classroom.
- Provide more before and after school care at all Detroit Public and Charter schools to give parents a larger variety of choices.
- More parent programs that enter ACT with the children.
- Make all day preschool available with after school latch key program. Teach the children about computers and a second language.
- Needs no improvement
- Preschool programs are just great and so is Ms. Johnson & Mrs. Walker at McKenny Elem.
- I feel the preschool program could benefit both parent and child if it was an all day program.
- The system that they have now is fine with me. As long as your child goes to school they will learn.
- Extra days??
- Provide school care for kindergarten morning classes for parents that work during the day (9:00-5:00)
- Increase time in program from 1/2 day to full day using 1 1/2 nap/quiet time.
- Program seems great. Need someone to follow up on procedures for admission.
- Have more help
- Listen to parents wishes about their child. (Example) I asked my child's teacher not to feed my child pork, that meant I did not want him to eat any sandwiches. She gave it to him anyway.

- I think its all right the way it is.
- Present preschool program is wonderful.
- Before and after school care.
- Have a teacher like Mrs. Farris & Mrs. Brown who care for those kids that come to the classes.
- The District can improve more currently by allowing 3 year old children to start learning also.
- Get more teachers like Mrs. Helen Dawkins and Her teacher's aide Mrs. Poe. They are very concerned and dedicated teachers.
- Start to listen to parents more and not take sides of teachers or the other administrators. I would never place my child at Newton again and she is only going to kindergarten
- Teach the kids more/ Teach them how to read, recognize words.
- The program could be enhanced by letting the children go all day Monday, Thursday. Turner has a good program.
- Half day preschool is difficult for working parents to schedule. All day preschool would increase participation (enrollment) and probably benefit those children who need it most.
- Provide all day program for Pre-K because it really inconveniences the working parents.
- I would like to see it be an all day program. Kindergarten also.
- More discipline, African History, After school tutoring in Reading, Math, Science
- Offer more physical activities for kindergarten.
- Build theme play escape for bigger children. Their school only has a play escape for head-start and that is very unfair.
- extend the hours for all day.
- Improve condition of classroom restroom and stock with the necessary restroom supplies.
- Better lunch, computer classes.
- More community based programs (Girl/Boy Scouts) clubs, etc.
- Giver more to help the teachers that teach pre-school.
- Excellent. They taught my children very well. The teachers are very, very good. They did a terrific job with my son.
- Provide transportation for parents who cannot get their child to the school.
- Make it all day. I cannot work & take one child in kindergarten in morning and take another child in afternoon class 8-11:00 a.m., afternoon 12-3:00 p.m. I have to wait everyday at the school for 1 hour in between classes!
- The program is fine just the way it is. Keep up the good work. Thank you.
- I believe it is an excellent program now.
- All day care.
- No improvement. Already excellent.
- More learning and less having fun. (Example-starting to write name and ABC recognition.
- I feel the school should be all day so the children will learn more.
- Current activities.
- Kindergarten and preschool be all day because parent works 8 hours. They can't find a ride for them just for a half a day. School full day is better than a half of day.
- Help me get my children back and forth to school. I can no longer walk my daughter to and from school.
- Get rid of the principal, Mr. Burton.
- The preschool program is fine to me. I think they should send little tests home so we can

see how much they have learned.

- I think this school is excellent and the teacher Ms. Robinson is a very excellent teacher and will recommend her to anyone.
- By having more preschool programs at neighboring school. Hiring more preschool teachers. Offer more.
- Give the teachers more of a say when it comes to the curriculum and require more participation of the parents. Reinstate physical education, art and music as core curriculum.
- By making sure all events: zoo, farms, carnival outings can/will leave on time every time.
- Macomb elementary school can better their curriculum.
- Consider conveniences for 9-5 p.m. parents; full day preschool, before and after school care, hours in class.
- More parents need to attend their child's education because some parents are not there with their child. I understand if some work but some don't.
- Encourage writing skills if the child shows signs or knows how to spell their name.
- Help the children prepare for the next grade.
- If the school had a after school program it would benefit a lot of working parents.
- Just fine the way it is.
- The district can be improved by treating both preschool classes the same not one better than the other.
- Preschool program is excellent.
- Provide teachers who have a greater tolerance for very active children.
- I would have preferred for my son to go all day. He probably would have learned more.
- By getting more parents to participate in the program.
- This school has a very good program and I see no need for change.
- 'Keep doing the great things they are doing.
- More preschool programs.
- Hire more preschool teachers as that there will be more open spaces.
- Clone Mrs. Edwards from Arts & Academics for preschool & kindergarten throughout the city.
- By having children learn more spelling names and writing ABC's and less painting and coloring. Thank you.
- I thin k the preschool is an excellent program. My child's teachers (Ms. Danear & Mr. Glenn) were great. He learned a lot and he enjoyed going to school everyday. I would like to see a before and after school care program for half a day (1/2) preschool and kindergarten children.
- I always here nice things about this school.
- It's already doing a great job.
- With child care after school.
- I think it's great.
- More experienced teachers.
- My daughter is 2 years old and is in speech therapy for a speech delay/disorder, she does not attend a preschool yet.
- Have more teachers like Tracey Carter who cares & supports the children as well as the parent (exception teacher).
- They help children learn very good their name.
- More homework two days a week.

- Foundation for Exceptional Children school is very nice and they work with the kids very well. I love it and my child will continue to go there until she gets all her functions correctly. But until then hats off to Foundation for Exceptional Children!
- To offer more before and after programs for our children of the working parents.
- Longer hours.
- Consider the all day with before and after school care for working parents. Because it will make Detroit schools more competitive to the private charter and parochial schools.
- Reduce the amount of duplicated paperwork the teachers have to do and let them teach!!!
- Ms. Oasby is one great teacher. My son has lead poisoning and she taught him extremely well.
- Create more preschool programs within the district. I was very impressed with the pre school's program and their teachers. Thank you!
- I think they're doing a very good job in teaching the students. My son loves his teachers and school.
- Get them more teachers that are willing to teach.
- Have all day preschool.
- Consider an all day preschool.
- Encourage children to write numbers and spell their names and simple work can help a lot.
- Provide more locations.
- Provide computers and software for activities covering a full preschool curriculum.
- Actually I was satisfied with the program. My child learned a lot in this program.
- My biggest worry is for student to safely make it to and from school. These are mentally challenged students who don't understand the concept of safety seating. Where are the bus attendants to assist the students on the bus in case there's a problem?
- If you need a sub for long term, make sure it is same person each day.
- Improve my adding prayer back into the school system.
- Because it's closer.
- They are doing a good job so far.
- They have to make the preschool programs longer, maybe all day preschool programs instead of half-a-day.
- I'm very happy with he way he children were taken care of. Thank you!
- Offer before and after care programs within school for parents that need it. A program was offered outside the school with transportation, however, it was very, very expensive. I'm a working parent and I could not afford it.
- Hot lunch. More space. The room in which it's housed is too small. Kids need more room to run, sit, play.
- By keeping Mrs. Goddin-Lewis.
- Give them more room for the kids. Ms. Burke and Ms. Sewell are two of the finest teachers! There should be more like them in the school system.
- As far as I can tell preschool was just fine.
- There needs to be better communication with the parents and the Board of Education.
- By offering an all day preschool program.
- It does not need improvement. The only thing is that it doesn't need to be taken out of our community. We need this for our young black & white children.
- Keep the school open and let kids in he neighborhood go to Columbian. Stop busing kids out of their neighborhood. That's not right.

- Try to get more parent involvement. More field trips. Work more preparing for kindergarten by working on handwriting skills.
- Getting more parents involved including myself. Making education fun by involving the children more.
- Keep school safe!
- Keep doing the same great things you do now!
- More activity toward achievement and advancement.
- Have all day daycare for children ages 3 to 5 years would be great. The children need it.
- I feel that they should have more field trips.
- Check at the school.
- More quality teaching. Less students in the classroom. Focus on reading skills early.
- All preschool and Head Start needs to be all day or at least half.
- Reduce the class sizes and employ more skilled teachers.
- Supervise the children on trips when the parent has to work.
- I feel Vernor pre-school program is a very good program. I see no improvements.
- They should have all day pre-school and kindergarten programs.
- By giving more trips. Letting the children have days where they can be teacher and teach what hey learned or what they know.
- Make a all day preschool program because a lot of the parents work or go to school themselves. The children that know more than others can help those children also.
- Have a more cooperative office staff at Durfee K-8 and be more responsible with paperwork. Be more supportive towards the preschool teachers. It'll be a better program.
- Keith preschool is real good. Taught my son a lot of different things.
- More teachers in class to help the kid what don't catch on fast. Reading and math techniques to help them. All day teaching/lots of computer techniques.
- Offer all day classes for preschoolers.
- There's nothing now that I can think of because the preschool teacher Mrs. Lowe the way she works with those kids. There's nothing else really needs to be changed.
- All day preschool would help a lot of parents. They wouldn't have to find day care if the child is at school from 7 a.m. -3:30 p.m. Shania is only 4 years old, she started at 3 yrs. old. Can she go to kindergarten?
- Smaller classrooms, use lottery and state funded moneys for the school system.
- From what I've seen it does not need any improvement.
- I know the school my child went to had different learn from the other preschool cause they say different fund from the state. Why's that?
- I think the preschool has been improved enough. The kids have learned this year more than the kindergarten.
- Keeping the children full-time.
- Hosmer does not need to improve the preschool program. They have one of the best programs I've ever been through. I would like to thank Dr. Rambeau and Mrs. Underwood for helping my child develop more.
- Have the teachers to be close to the kids and the kids will like to learn.
- More parental involvement. Establish a pre-school curriculum; provide extended hours; provide pre-school programs for gifted children.
- All day programs.
- Make preschool available to all children not just to children who may be lagging or need the most help.

- By providing before and after school care and a patrol security guard around school building, especially by the playground areas.
- Preschool program is excellent.
- Let the parents become more involved with the classroom and children.
- I think my child would enjoy the preschool program again. I'd like to see the beginning of phonics taught. We loved Mrs. Pasiak and Mrs. McFarland.
- I'm interested in an all day kindergarten program. I believe that would be beneficial to many parents and it could help with enrollment as well a sound curriculum programs. That will enable our children to be competitive with other schools.
- Extend the preschool and kindergarten to all day. I think it would prepare the kids for school better.
- Our experience with Mrs. Z. Baker as preschool teacher was excellent. I suggest Mrs. Baker teaching future preschool teachers. Furthermore, the current preschool teacher should attend a workshop with Mrs. Baker being the trainer.
- Give progress reports like report cards are given to older students; include preschoolers in awards/honors programs; more field trips; challenge students that are more advance; extra-curricular activities.
- No improvements needed.
- They can practice writing ABC's this way the students will learn little by little.
- Having more qualified teachers and aides.
- The teacher(s) should display a more caring & understanding attitude toward the children due to the adjustment that the children must make from home with parent to school.
- Mark Twain's preschool program (teachers) is satisfactory in my opinion.
- All day session for preschool and Kindergarten.
- Accommodating full time working parents. Hire an administration that will work with parents in making sure child is enrolled properly. My husband and I both have college degrees and know how to care for and teach our children. Unfortunately, many people within the administration think the only people in the DPS system are single parents living below the poverty line.
- Keep positive teaching in our schools and very professional teachers in our class rooms. Thank you and God bless.
- Update the classroom environment (physical appearance). Have more janitors to clean and upkeep especially bathrooms.
- I feel that the district is doing a wonderful job at Crary. The staff is great and I wouldn't have my children in any other school. I can't wait until my 3 yr old can attend. If there is anything I can do as a parent please contact me. The school has really improved since I attended.
- I think the preschool program is excellent. It's the upper grades where the problems are.
- It's find just like it is.
- I think the preschool could improve more by having people to speak bilingual (Spanish).
- I think the children should receive learning program that would get them ready for kindergarten.
- To my knowledge what my child needs is not available. My child uses sign language but also speaks. I want strong communication skills for the future success and happiness of my child.
- I disagree with the policy that says because my child's birthday is in December she should be held back. Because of that I have thought about removing my child from Detroit

Public Schools.

- She enjoyed the 99-00 school year and now I'm enrolling my Terri into Greenfield Park's preschool program. It's excellent. I would not change anything.
- Ms. Shaw is an excellent teacher. An imagination out of this world.
- Morning & after school care would be very, very helpful. Sometimes the day care care I had her in was late and could not be responsible if too early. They need somewhere safe to go before and after school for working parents especially.
- Younger teachers are needed because the children are so active these days.
- More out of school activities such as field trips to the Science Center, museums, and art fairs.
- I am currently very satisfied with their preschool program.
- By making all day or provide latch key services.
- Keep it like it is
- If you could create a latch key service that's inexpensive and that can go until 5:00 p.m. for working parents. As a plus, Ms. Mooney and Ms. Jones have done an excellent job with both of my children my hat is off to them.
- I don't know yet because I have not been to the school or class room.
- Be more practical with the preschool and be more direct toward the parents.
- Smaller class rooms (class size). Better facilities, more computer classes, security in all public schools.
- Satisfied
- Very good.
- Have more strict rules on your late policy.
- My child really enjoyed the preschool. The teachers are great and have many fun activities for them. Thank you.
- By getting before and after school care/all day kindergarten, all day preschool because we are working. Mothers should have a choice in where our children go to for child care.
- By expanding the curriculum and instead of 3 hour classes increase it to half-day school session.
- It was great like it was.
- By providing more hands on supplies (fine motor activities) and especially new classroom equipment (shelves, CD and cassette player -all new house area appliances).
- Yes, I do want the program.
- Hot food. I love the program.
- I have no ideas at this time.
- District can improve by including the before and after preschool program.
- Just make sure that our children can get as much education as possible.
- I could not get bussing. He did not attend school. I was told by Ms. Sincere at 866-7383 he could not attend Butzel school where he was registered.
- Take the children on more trips, learn more like opposites and same; thing like that. I don't think they need to eat lunch because it's only 3 hours of school or give them the whole day with an extra teacher with lunch.
- All day kindergarten. Also, all day pre school. I can't afford pick up and day care for my child.
- Have full day preschool especially for single parents. Maybe even have a daycare center in the school.
- I think the preschool program at Mann was wonderful.

- I myself need to come to meetings but now my schedule is inflexible. I can attend.
- Expand it to at least two classrooms so other children can get the benefit of being taught and nurtured before kindergarten.
- Computers, trips, supplies
- I think this program was fine. I wish I had time to spend at the school with my child. I also wish it was from 7:00 AM through 3:30 PM. That way I wouldn't pay for another person to take care of my child.
- We need more teachers, computers, and more parents involved.
- Offer all day classes.
- I think it is a good program from what I see there is not really is not anything that need to be done.
- Burt is a great school for children to learn. I started kindergarten there and finished fifth grade. I would not change a thing.

Detroit Public Schools
Preschool Parent Survey - 1999-2000
Questions and Responses

Returned and Completed Surveys - 640

Part A - Current School Year (1999-2000)

My child attends the:

50.1%; 315	Morning Session	4.8%; 30	All day session
45.2%; 284	Afternoon Session		

Replies 629; Forms 640

How would you rate the preschool program at this school?

65.8%; 412 Excellent	28.4%; 178 Good	5.8%; 36 Fair

Replies 626; Forms 640

My child(ren) is (are) learning a lot in preschool.

60.4%; 379	Strongly Agree	2.9%; 18	Disagree
35.9%; 225	Agree	0.8%; 5	Strongly Disagree

Replies 627; Forms 640

My child(ren) enjoy(s) preschool.

75.0%; 467	Strongly Agree	0.5%; 3	Disagree
24.6%; 153	Agree	0.0%; 0	Strongly Disagree

Replies 623; Forms 640

If you were employed during the last year, or if you are currently employed, please check the appropriate box.

55.0%; 337 Full-Time (35 hours or more per week, year around).
27.1%; 166 Did not work
17.9%; 110 Part-Time (less than 35 hours per week, or seasonally).

Replies 613; Forms 640

If you are enrolled in school, indicate the number of credit hours you are currently taking.

91.2%; 540 0	0.8%; 5 8	0.3%; 2 14	0.5%; 3 Other
1.9%; 11 6	0.7%; 4 4	0.3%; 2 16	
1.5%; 9 3	0.5%; 3 5	0.3%; 2 7	
1.2%; 7 12	0.3%; 2 10	0.3%; 2 9	

Replies 592; Forms 640

- 20
- 15
- 40

If this school provided before school care, would you use it

72.0%; 429 Yes	28.0%; 167 No

Replies 596; Forms 640

If this school provided after school care, would you use it?

78.8%; 472 Yes	21.2%; 127 No

Replies 599; Forms 640

If this school provided all day care, would you use it?

78.2%; 466 Yes	21.8%; 130 No

Replies 596; Forms 640

I would prefer the following schedule: (Check only one).

33.0%;	192	All day with before and after school care (7:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.)
29.4%;	171	All day without before or after school care (8:00 A.M. - 3:30 P.M.)
18.4%;	107	Morning Session without before school care (beginning at 8:00 A.M.)
7.9%;	46	Afternoon Session without after school care (ending at 3:30 P.M.)
6.0%;	35	Afternoon Session with after school care (ending at 3:30 P.M.)
5.3%;	31	Morning Session with before school care (beginning at 7:00 A.M.)

Replies 582; Forms 640

I am currently participating in the following parent programs: (You may select more than one answer).

44.2%;	267	Meetings	0.8%;	5	Trips
37.9%;	229	Classroom Volunteer Service	0.3%;	2	Field trip
32.6%;	197	None	0.3%;	2	Field trip volunteer
11.9%;	72	Workshops	0.3%;	2	Went on trips with class
1.8%;	11	Field trips	8.3%;	50	Other
0.8%;	5	Other			

Replies 604; Forms 640

- Attend all trips
- School events trips etc.
- Work 6 days 1 week.
- I want to participate more an intend to.
- LSCO
- co-chairperson
- I don't have a car at this time.
- L.S.C.O.
- Not in any program now. Starting Fall, 2000.
- Baseball
- Academy
- Because of my work hours.
- Help with field trips
- When I get the chance
- I also attend the trips.
- Child advocacy
- Enroll him back at Parker/
- Donations. (Money for activities)
- Volunteer out classroom
- Occasional classroom volunteer
- Honor's Program, BETA Club, Math & Science Workshops
- Volunteering on field trips.
- I would like to participate if at all possible
- Volunteer to held on trips
- I also attend field trips along with my husband.
- Therapy sessions
- Parent volunteer
- I am disabled.
- Work from 8-4 everyday.
- Fun day.
- Parent teacher conference
- I assist during field trips.
- Trip volunteer
- Use to volunteer. Not any more.
- Parenting: Brightmoor Community Center

- Sometimes I come into the class.
- Whatever teacher asks
- I'm handicapped so I can't participate very long.
- Cub Scouts 52
- Field trips.
- Parent supervision on field trips.
- Field trips and whenever needed.
- Sometimes
- Everything asked of me.
- I am a volunteer from last year 1999-April, 2000.

If you participated in any parent programs, how many hours did you serve?

33.0%;	179	1 or 5 hours per semester	11.3%;	61	16 or more hours per semester
30.6%;	166	Did not participate	7.0%;	38	11-15 hours per semester
18.1%;	98	6-10 hours per semester			

Replies 542; Forms 640

Part B-Upcoming School Year (2000-2001)

PRESCHOOL

For the upcoming school year, I plan to:

34.0%;	83	Enroll another child in this preschool program for the first time..
20.9%;	51	Kindergarten
9.0%;	22	Enroll another child in a charter school or community-based preschool program for the first time.
5.3%;	13	Enroll another child in a preschool program at another Detroit Public School for the first time.
4.1%;	10	kindergarten.
27.5%;	67	Other

Replies 244; Forms 640

- kindergarten
- Send child to another school.
- kindergarten
- No other children, but I would enroll child if I did.
- None of my children will be preschool age next year.
- I don't have another child pre-school age.
- kindergarten
- No more children for preschool
- I do not have a child to be enrolled in preschool.
- kindergarten
- kindergarten

- I do not have a child to enrolled in preschool.
- Keep my son in this program
- Child is not old enough.
- I have no more preschoolers
- I don't have anymore children attending school.
- No other children preschool age.
- Enroll the same child
- My child is too young to attend preschool.
- kindergarten
- Continue to go to same school with brother and sister.
- To move my child now into another school.
- My little one is only two years old.
- I have no child that's ready for preschool.
- Keep my 3 1/2 year old in daycare because I won't be able to get him from preschool at a half day.
- The children are older and won't need preschool.
- Enroll my child in a half day Head Start program.
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- kindergartner
- I only have one child
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- Enroll another child in preschool 2001-2002
- kindergarten
- Only one child
- Keep child in same school/program
- Enrolled in another District
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- Another school
- My youngest child is 5 years old. No more babies.
- Send her back to the same school.
- kindergarten
- Kindergarten.
- Children have now outgrown preschool.
- No more kids for preschool.
- Do not have another child ready for school.
- Child on waiting list for K-4 at Faith Christian Academy.
- No other preschool aged children
- No other preschool age children
- Place my child in another school.
- Send my children back to Fox
- Have to enroll year 2001. Child too young yet.

- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- No preschool age children
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- Will not have any other children to enroll.
- Head start program. Second year.
- I have no other preschoolers to attend school.
- Child will be attending Charter School.
- I don't have any kids but my nephew will be going.
- No more children younger than 5 years of age.
- Martyrs of Uganda School
- kindergarten
- I have only one child
- My child isn't old enough for school yet.
- No more children at that age to enroll.
- No more preschoolers
- kindergarten
- Moving out of state.
- kindergarten
- This is my last child.
- kindergarten
- kindergarten
- Kindergarten.
- kindergarten
- Switch two children to another DPS (Kindergarten. and third grade.) - moved.
- Continue with DPS with the same child.
- No other preschoolers at home
- Enroll child in program at Davison Elementary school for signing and speech training.
- I don't have kid to attend for this year.
- Planned to enroll my son in preschool again in the same school.
- I will enroll my son in special education school.
- Already in school
- kindergarten
- Enroll a child in headstart.
- My son is only 2 1/2.
- I have no other children to enroll in preschool.
- I would like to with your help.
- Head Start

If you have considered enrolling your child in non-Detroit Public School preschool program please
briefly list the reason(s) for your decision.

- All day classes
- For all day care while I work.
- Detroit Public Schools be on strike too much for too long I either miss work or have to

pay day care.

- The hours were more convenient for my job schedule and they picked up and dropped off after school but the cost was too high.
- Because most charter schools have all day kindergarten and being a full time working parent what more convenient instead of half day.
- Because I need something full time. Because I work full time and it is really hard.
- The children outside of Detroit are better mannered, which encourages a better education for children. Less stress on teachers.
- My child had a new teacher after Christmas & since then he regressed drastically. Cannot write letters and did not test high enough to go to all day kindergarten which I need so I can work. I have to work with him on this to no avail.
- More computer access
- I would only change to allow my children a better chance to get certified teachers in their subjects to give then a well rounded education. I am very impressed with my daughters preschool class.
- The teacher did not teach the way she used to. This year I felt that she was lazy. She did not care as much to teach.
- The teacher did not teach much.
- If I move to Redford I will put my child in a non Detroit Public School because I feel like they learn more and come out with more education in the areas that are needed to succeed in life.
- Other children attend a different school
- Public school employees are under paid, so the care they provide may not be the best of their abilities of well paid educators! You get what you pay for.
- Their school goes all day and most of them have latch key in which a lot of single parents need until they find other ways for after school care.
- I have not considered to enroll my child in a non-DPS preschool program.
- I don't consider enrolling my non-Detroit Public School.
- Smaller classrooms.
- The school my oldest (2nd grade) son is enrolled in is extremely mismanaged and disorganized and I don't want the same problems with my youngest son.
- Child too young to attend Public School for Head Start.
- Personal reasons, mainstreaming my child with more children with out disabilities to help other children/parents understand my child's disability and as well as the Head Start program and activities.
- A step ahead school appears to have a higher learning scale than DPS system.
- Smaller classes more one on one learning.
- Because I need my child to go to school all day.
- I have two children. They will be at Von Steuben.
- All day kindergarten and preschool
- I think children in charter schools learn more because they are less crowded.
- No never because I had two children to go to this school and I enjoy it very much.
- The number one reason is because they provide all-day preschool, also because they have an academic based program.
- I have been told that the curriculum is much better at the charter schools and the teachers are more attentive.
- They have all day kindergarten for my child and I am moving out that way.

- Seeking an all day program. Seeking before and/or after school care.
- I have considered due to work hours a private school with long hours and more time to concentrate on reading/math.
- All my children will always go to Detroit Public Schools.
- Moved to Redford Township.
- School is not always kept up. Grass needs to be cut, walks are not shoveled or salted.
- They (private schools) pay more attention to the children.
- My child needs a smaller classroom.
- Preschool/kindergarten program was an all day program.
- Better teaching methods and Christian background.
- Only if this program was not available.
- Unorganized
- Charter school I think are more responsible, respectful, successful.
- Private schools do offer all day programs.
- Need all day care
- DPS educators are not empowered enough to make a difference in how the children respond to the curriculum.
- Because my child did not learn anything and I feel more quality time should have been spend with my child.
- Full day preschool, before and after school care and hours in school.
- Smaller class sizes
- More classroom control-Higher moral standards. Openness to ideas of parents.
- I have considered enrolling my child in a non-public preschool for more efficient and reliable transportation.
- All day classes. class size, environment
- By being a single parent working 40 hours a week, I would need a latch-key or after school program until 5:30 p.m.
- She will be attending kindergarten in the fall.
- Nursery for a 2 year old.
- More activities that work toward advancement
- I chose to enroll my daughter in a charter school for kindergarten because of the time difference. She can stay all day from 8:00 a.m. to 3:15 p.m. and the academic level is excellent.
- Provide for non-English speaking households.
- Charter schools are offering better programs which is making it harder for public schools to compete. Teachers are learning and children are losing out.
- Smaller classroom for a better education.
- Poor transportation by school bus. Interested in a more advanced program.
- My children enrolled in preschool at approximately 12 months old.
- I would like to see them learn a little more of the fundamentals like letter sounds, begin the writing process.
- I am considering the curriculum and longer school time.
- Better curriculum, all-day sessions, more/better extra-curricular activities, smaller class sizes.
- The administration is slow processing paperwork. I get the feeling that the administration does not care. Facilities are old and outdated. I can't believe all the money that goes into DPS and yet facilities are crumbling. At Harding there are no black tops. Why not?

- Hearing impaired child. Trying to find a program that addresses all aspects of communication training for the child without changing schools to get it.
- I have not considered enrolling my child in an non-Detroit Public School program.
- The school that my kid will be attending does not offer all day kindergarten.
- One of the reasons placing my son in a non-DPS is that the other schools offer an all day preschool program and latch key service that makes it very convenient for me because I work and I am a single mom and it's better for me to work full time.
- I need an all day preschool for siblings
- My son will be returning to Arts in Academics. Thank you.
- Full day care in other preschool programs.

KINDERGARTEN

For the upcoming school year, I plan to:

75.5%;	448	Enroll my child(ren) in kindergarten at this school.
9.8%;	58	Enroll my child(ren) in kindergarten at another Detroit Public School.
7.9%;	47	Enroll my child(ren) in a charter school kindergarten.
1.0%;	6	Enroll my child(ren) in a private or parochial school.
1.0%;	6	Enroll my child(ren) in a public school outside of Detroit.
4.7%;	28	Other

Replies 593; Forms 640

- Send my child to another school
- Too much killing. Pre schoolers bring guns to school.
- If this school can provide me with all day.
- Whatever will provide all day with the best teaching.
- Planning to move.
- He is still in preschool.
- Not sure yet
- My child will attend pre-school or head start.
- My church school if room becomes available.
- My child will continue preschool at Oakman.
- At this school or if possible I will find a school with all day kindergarten instead of half day.
- Moving soon. Haven't decided.
- Not sure yet.
- I've moved. Kindergarten at smaller school.
- There is no kind of communication at Newton.
- I plan to enroll child in a Head Start program.
- I plan to enroll my child in a charter school (1st grade).
- I will enroll him in preschool.
- Have not made any definite decision. Will see how preschool program works out.
- Moving out of state.
- I have not decided, but I have placed in application in a private institution.
- My child will be enrolled in preschool for another year.

- Undecided.
- The preschool program was excellent, but I was dissatisfied.

If you plan to enroll your child(ren) in a non-Detroit Public School kindergarten, briefly list the reason(s) for your decision.

Replies 0; Forms 0

- Detroit Public Schools don't have "All day Kindergarten"
- Dissatisfied with the Detroit Board of Education.
- They will learn more and eat hot healthy food. Also, constantly watched.
- If it was not for the controlled environment at C. Young I would enroll my child elsewhere.
- If they have all day kindergarten.
- I need full time school not part-time.
- More structure. Higher teaching environment.
- I need all day kindergarten. I need school to reinforce reading, writing, letters and numbers.
- We plan to move to another part of the state.
- All day kindergarten and a lot more reading and math. The teachers are not tired they are fresh and ready to teach. They don't tolerate disruptive behavior from children or parents.
- Detroit Public School are the worst schools for learning.
- No one care about Detroit Public Schools.
- My fifth grader is not getting the help he needs.
- Morning care program provided. Other sibling attending.
- We moved to another city.
- The Charter school I'm enrolling my son in has all day kindergarten.
- I would enroll my child in a non DPS kindergarten because they go all day.
- Because it's not a full day of school.
- Other children attend different school.
- I might be moving. Still haven't been decided yet.
- I do not plan to enroll in a non-DPS school.
- I don't plan to enroll my child in a non-Detroit Public School.
- If I could find a all day program with computer time.
- The program is too fast paced with little concrete teaching.
- Provides all day kindergarten classes
- The reason I am considering church school is because the environment has religious undertones.
- Her siblings are in charter and she gets it by default.
- I will enroll my child at Courtis for 1 more year.
- More one on one teaching for children who need it.
- No one on one teaching. Smaller Classes.
- Currently trying to find my child on an all day program.
- They have all day kindergarten
- I would need a all day kindergarten.
- I've moved
- My child was in an EDK class this year and did very well.

- Because I has such a wonderful experience (1st time) with pre-school program.
- Other children attend non-public.
- Charter schools offer all day kindergarten
- Moving!
- Hours of school do not correspond with work hours.
- There were no schools near my home, they wanted to bus far away.
- My son attended kindergarten there and he knows a lot, even reading.
- Moved
- I have been very pleased with DPS but I have to consider safety.
- I'm watching for improvements with the Board as a whole.
- Need all day kindergarten-8:00-3:30.
- I will enroll in non DPS only if before or after school is an issue.
- I chose a charter school because of the all day kindergarten program.
- More time is spent on teaching and less on politics.
- For my child to receive a better education with more caring teachers.
- Full day kindergarten, before and after school care, hours in school.
- Because it's close to home.
- We transferred from Livonia School district-received more one-on-one teaching.
- My child will attend Arts and Academics kindergarten because Mrs. Edwards is an excellent teacher. If it were not for her I would have serious reservations about the DPS system.
- I plan to enroll my child in Edison.
- Charter offers foreign language, computer training and have smaller classes.
- Transportation is a concern of mine/such as safety belts and transportation.
- Husband is Catholic and wants him to go to a Catholic school.
- I'd like to enroll my daughter in private school.
- Sibling attend, curriculum, environment, size.
- I plan to enroll all my children in a academic school because they teach more and I like the idea of uniforms.
- Time and academic excellence
- Because of a house fire.
- Moving out of state. Military.
- Durfee wasn't a good school nor had a good office staff.
- More one on one communication with child/lower class count.
- Smaller classrooms
- I need full time 8-3:30 p.m.
- Half day sessions does not accommodate my work schedule.
- The private school offered all day kindergarten class and a good curriculum.
- Smaller class sizes-safer locations
- I do not want them in public schools/not enough attention.
- Looking for more consistent training.
- Smaller class size and better learning
- I moved to the suburbs.
- All day programs
- Yes, I do want my child to go to school.